

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The application has been amended. In particular, claim 28 has been amended to recite that the protein is labeled with a donor dye molecule and the RNA is labeled with an acceptor dye molecule. Claim 35 has been amended to be consistent with the language in claim 28. Support for these amendments can be found in the application as filed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Written Description Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 16-18, 28, 29, 31-33 and 35-37 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, alleging that the subject matter was not sufficiently described in the specification. In particular, with respect to claim 28, the Examiner is of the opinion that there is no statement or suggestion in the specification that protein/RNA interactions can be determined when the protein is labeled with an acceptor dye, while at the same time the RNA is labeled with a donor dye.

In an effort to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 28 to be directed to the situation in which the donor is attached to the protein and the acceptor is attached to the RNA. As acknowledged by the Examiner, support for this language can be found on page 10, paragraph [0026] and in original claim 15. Applicants have also amended claim 35 to be consistent with the language in claim 28. In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Written Description rejection.

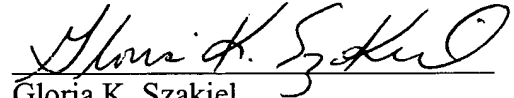
Summary

Applicants submit that the application, including claims 16-18, 28, 29, 31-33 and 35-37 is in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited. Should the

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Examiner have any questions regarding this Response, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gloria K. Szakiel", written over a horizontal line.

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